

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The Bulgarian Government is still trying to conceal the fact that there is a possible cholera threat in Bulgaria. The latest incident of this occurred when the Bulgarian Government was forced to explain why Bulgarian seamen are required to take anti-cholera vaccinations. The reasons given for this by the Bulgarian Government in an official note to the Turkish Government were:
  - a. There are not now nor have there been any cases of cholera in Bulgaria or on Bulgarian ships.
  - b. These vaccinations of seamen are merely a preventive measure in view of Bulgaria's expanding trade which now includes commercial relations with countries in the cholera area.
  - c. These vaccinations for immunization are not a new procedure but have been performed on seamen in the past.
2. However, the Bulgarian Government has been advised by Bulgarian representatives in Turkey that the reasons given in this official note to the Turkish Government have not been sufficient to dispel Turkish suspicion of a cholera threat in Bulgaria. In addition, these Bulgarian representatives point out that the same situation pertains in Greece where Bulgarian merchandise is not permitted entry.
3. Therefore, the Bulgarian Foreign Ministry has been urgently requested by Bulgarian representatives in Turkey to arrange for the publication in a Bulgarian Government news organ of a convincing article or news release showing that there have not been and are not now any cases of cholera in Bulgaria.

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